

# The Weekly True Democrat.

VOL. 1.

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA, JUNE 9, 1905.

NO. 15.

Good Government; Honesty in Public Office; Equal Justice to All--Special Privileges to None.

## WHAT THE STATE NEWSPAPERS SAY.

Grand Symposium of Public Opinion By Those Who Know.

### BUCKMAN COLLEGE LAW.

If the Buckman bill means fewer State schools, and better ones, at much less cost, then every taxpayer is interested in it. At present money is being squandered on State schools which should go to making the rural schools better, but it is only natural that the towns that have been enjoying these schools will feel their loss.—Bronson Times-Democrat.

That it was hasty, ill-advised and badly digested the most cursory examination will show, and at the same time an investigation of the reports of the committees appointed to investigate these institutions, as well as the matters aside from these that have come to the knowledge of the general public and so to the members of the Legislature, makes the action of the Legislature less surprising than it would be otherwise, even to those who were in Tallahassee and learned something of the methods by which some members were influenced.

Should the Governor sign it, it may be taken almost as an assured fact that the matter will go into the courts and end no one knows where.—DeFuniak Breeze.

The Buckman school bill, which has passed the Legislature, abolishing all State educational institutions and provides for the establishment of two schools instead, a college for females and a university for males. Upon first thought this might appear as being a step backwards, but with a little consideration it would appear that it is not so bad. There is hardly any excuse for the State's conducting half a dozen or more schools, all poorly patronized, when the two as proposed by the bill will answer every purpose. But it is of little use to discuss the merits or the demerits of the bill now, as it has already passed, and, be it bad or good, we will have to give it a trial.—Mariana Times-Courier.

The Buckman bill has passed both houses of the Legislature. This bill is wide in its scope and effects, abolishing all the State colleges and providing for three schools, two white and one colored. This is the best bill that could have been passed. The measly little schools were draining the State, costing hundreds of thousands of dollars annually and doing less good than a third grade school in the rural districts. The Topics congratulates the Legislature upon the passage of one bill that is of general benefit to the people.—Perry Topics.

### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

It is now "Mr. Justice Parkhill," Judge Chas. B. Parkhill of the first circuit having resigned to accept a seat on the supreme court bench. An able jurist and most excellent gentleman, Justice Parkhill will bring additional lustre to our highest legal tribunal.—Madison New Enterprise.

The appointment of Judge Carter to the bench in this circuit, and also of Judge Parkhill to the supreme bench has aroused criticism in some quarters and by those who evidently do not understand the situation. It has been an open secret for some time that Judge Carter has been anxious to retire from the supreme court in order to engage in a more active life, and it has been his intention at no distant day to resign and take up the practice of his profession. This would leave a vacancy which Judge Parkhill is in every way qualified to fill, and his elevation left a vacancy on the bench in this circuit, a place that hundreds of Judge Carter's friends have long been anxious to see him in, and for these reasons the exchange, if such it may be called, was made, and on account of it both the judges and the people are to be congratulated.—DeFuniak Breeze.

The True Democrat in its last issue takes to making editorial out of scripture and quotes partly from several books of the Word, paragraphs which seem to be peculiarly fitting just at this time to conditions reported to exist in Florida.—Mudison New Enterprise.

Judge C. B. Parkhill has resigned his judgeship of the first circuit and been appointed a justice of the supreme court by Governor Broward. He takes the place of Justice Carter, who resigned in order to be appointed judge of the first circuit in place of Judge Parkhill. In other words the two have exchanged offices and also places of residence. The friends and relatives of Justice Parkhill will be pleased to learn that he will bring his family to Tallahassee in a fortnight's time. Leon county is the place of his birth and it is no doubt, proud to welcome back its distinguished son after many years of absence.—Monticello News.

Graft in any form is a crime. Grafters are criminals. The law may not be able to reach them in the beginning but they will grow bolder as they proceed and sooner or later they will be caught. One of the crimes of Florida has been unearthed by the present Legislature in its investigation of the State insane

asylum. Some of the offenders have protested to heaven that they are innocent and it is hoped that they are—being women. This matter should be probed to the very marrow and if there is guilt let it be punished to the full, even though it reach some of the crowned heads.—Fort Pierce News.

Governor Broward and his Board of State Institutions have sent to the Legislature an exhaustive denial of all the charges made against the insane asylum management by the legislative committee appointed to visit and investigate that institution. By this defense it seems the Governor proposes to stand loyally by the bridge over which he passed to reach the executive chair—the Jennings administration. The charges made by the legislative committee were a reflection on the administration of Gov. Broward only in that it was left for the legislature, instead of the executive, to discover or report the rottenness. But these charges do constitute a nasty reflection on the Jennings administration. The charges were "hot stuff." They may not all be susceptible of proof. But there was enough that was specific in them to make the "righteous indignation" of the Governor and his board of control appear in any but a favorable light. What the people want and what the Governor should demand is a full, free and sweeping investigation of the institution. That is the only honest thing to do.—Palatka News.

### Summer Tourist Rates

Now on sale, via G. F. and A. Ry. and C. T. and G. R. R., to all Mountain and Water Resorts. Elegant schedules and splendid sleeping car connections made to all points.

For rates and other information, phone 26, or address R. C. Snipes, Traveling Passenger Agent, Tallahassee, Fla.

Senator Geo. P. Raney is at Portsmouth, Va., on official business.

Miss S. E. Reed, one of the young ladies of the Florida State College last session, is paying a visit to her Alma Mater.

Hon. W. B. Lamar and his charming wife have gone to Pensacola for a short visit.

Among the prominent Floridians present during the State College closing exercises were Hon. Samuel Pasco and T. L. Clark, of Monticello.

C. G. Lambert, of Atlanta, general agent, and J. R. Wills, of Jacksonville, supervising agent of the Singer Sewing Machine Co., were in the city Tuesday.

Mr. Geo. W. Saxon, president of the Capital City Bank, left yesterday to attend the annual meeting of the Florida State Bankers' Association, meeting in Jacksonville today.

Hon. W. N. Sheets and his wife returned last week from DeFuniak Springs, where Col. Sheets held a position in the State Normal College, and are again domiciled at their former home.

Mrs. Jno. E. Gammon, with her little daughter, of Marianna, has been the guest of Judge and Mrs. Francis B. Carter during the commencement exercises. His son Frank is one of the graduates this year.

Rev. N. M. Long, of Memphis, Tenn., will preach at the Presbyterian church next Sunday morning and evening. This noble, Christian gentleman has hosts of Tallahassee friends and admirers and he will have large congregations. The public is cordially invited to hear him preach in his old church again.

Every citizen of Tallahassee was pained to learn of the serious illness of Mr. B. A. Meginniss, early in the week, at John Hopkins University, Baltimore. The latest news is to the effect that he underwent a successful operation last Tuesday, has since been improving, and will return home as soon as his physicians are satisfied he is able to travel.

If no wrong has been done in connection with the asylum, and along other lines in State affairs during the Jennings administration, why should any one connected with it do a single act to hamper investigation. Yet, the ex-Gov. and some of his henchmen were kept busy, yes, very busy during the last several days of the session. Innocent angels do not fear an investigating committee.

The parents and a large number of friends of Miss Whitfield's music class enjoyed a delightful piano recital given at Miss Whitfield's residence Wednesday afternoon, May 31. The program rendered was a very elaborate one, and was composed of some choice selections from well known composers of the musical world. The young lady pupils did honor to their teacher and sustained her already well known reputation as teacher and musical director.

The True Democrat office had a pleasant call Saturday from Mr. J. T. Percival, editor of the Gainesville Star, which is one of the nearest and liveliest newspapers in the State. Mr. Percival is an enthusiast on the subject of immigration, and he has done some excellent work in the direction of interesting the general public in that important subject. And much more may be expected of him, in which he will have the ardent co-operation of The True Democrat.

## THE COMMENCEMENT.

### Florida State College Finals.

The final exercises of the Florida State College were celebrated this week. Although overshadowed by the dark cloud of dissolution, the College through the excellence of the work done by the graduates of her varied departments vindicated her claim, based on that primary law of nature, "the survival of the fittest," to a future of wider opportunities than the past has afforded.

The opening exercise was on Sunday, June 4th, when the Baccalaureate sermon was delivered by the Rev. J. E. Dickey D. D., president of Emory College, Georgia.

The students formed in marching order at the Presbyterian church headed by the board and faculty and the graduating class, arrayed in caps and gowns. From thence they marched on to the Methodist church and filed in by pairs. An elaborate musical program preceded and followed the impressive sermon.

The Methodist church was again crowded in the evening to hear the sermon to the Y. W. C. A. and the Y. M. C. A., delivered by Rev. W. E. H. Mabry, formerly pastor of this church. Special music was prepared for the occasion. Mr. Mabry is much admired in Tallahassee and his eloquence causes all denominations to contribute to his congregations whenever he is with us.

On Monday morning at 10 o'clock in the opera house the annual exercises of the Philosophical society were presided over by the president of the society, Miss Cora Knight, of Sumterville. The program, comprising music, oratory and debate, was enjoyed by a large audience.

The subject of debate, "Resolved, That the Efforts of the Russian Nihilists are Entitled to the Sympathy of a Free People," expressed to the light of public opinion in this country where public opinion is allowed free illumination a most abhorrent suppression of freedom as we know it. The contestants were Miss Johnnie Ruthland and Miss Lila Bryan for the affirmative and Miss India Brandon and Miss Dorcas Broward for the negative.

The judges, who were Mr. Evans, Miss Gallie and Mr. Blanton, rendered a decision in favor of the affirmative. Dr. Tucker, a graduate of Columbia College and the founder of the society, delivered a most appropriate and timely address on "the influence of prejudice and the search for truth," which was heartily applauded.

On Tuesday, June 6th, at 10:30 a. m., the oratorical contest for the Hilson medal was held in the Assembly Hall. The speeches of the various contestants were excellent but space is inadequate for a full discussion of the merits of them all, but there are none who will object to being classed as second best to such two orations as "Jefferson Davis," by Miss Shirley Long, and "America's Mission," by Mr. Sam Sanborne. Miss Long had the choice of subjects for a southern audience for while our loyalty unalterably belongs to our country and her mission is very clear to us, our very hearts are wrapped up in those great souls who made such a country and such a mission possible. Miss Long's touching eulogy was most beautiful and her address was characterized by a loftiness and a finish most remarkable in a student so young. In the evening at 8:30 the annual recital of the department of music and elocution under Prof. F. W. Kraft, director of the department of music and Miss Ella Day, principal of oratory and physical culture again filled the hall and an extensive musical program containing fifteen selections, vocal and instrumental, was interspersed with pleasing recitations.

The medals given by Mr. W. N. Sweeting, and Prof. Kraft for the department of music were awarded to Misses Lila Bryan and Ada Hodge.

The graduating exercises of the commercial and normal departments on Wednesday, June 7, 10:30 a. m., brought forth a class of graduates in its different branches, nine strong. The orations were all good and to the point. The music was delightful and added yet another measure to the well-deserved fame of the Tallahassee orchestra. The class and the audience was treated to an inspiring address by Hon. W. J. Bryan, of Jacksonville, Fla., who professed to have found the ground for an address to this business class monopolized already by the excellent orations which preceded his address, but who, nevertheless, was not at a loss for material of the best kind from which to construct a most brief and instructive discourse, which was heartily applauded. The graduates in these departments were: Normal, Miss Henrietta Lisk; stenography, Judith A. Watkins; Elizabeth E. Ellis, Hattie Idela White, Robert G. Pitman; business, Lancing D. Carduff, Carlton E. Brigman, Annie Irene Hatcher, and Alice E. Theus.

Wednesday evening, June 7, witnessed in the assembly hall the closing and final exercises of the Florida State College. A little after the hour appointed the graduating class of 1905, in their caps and gowns, made an imposing entry. Closely following these were the president, faculty and trustees of the college, the Governor and his cabinet,

who escorted that talented son of the South, John Temple Graves, to the platform.

The stirring strains of the Tallahassee orchestra rendering a selection from Musical Fantasy was a fitting introductory to the brilliant program which followed. Mr. Frederick William Buchholz, who is to be Florida's representative at Oxford, delivered an oration on "The Classics in Education." The composition showed study and a discriminating judgement which developed will make its mark. A vocal solo by Miss Margaret Buchholz and the encore to which she so pleasingly responded was received with insistent applause.

Miss Pattillo's oration on Literature and Life opened vistas of delight to all leading through the carefully prepared thoroughfares of literature in the close association of immortal minds. She showed that all countries had such highways well worth the travel and open to all. Miss Pattillo's address was most pleasing.

The Tallahassee orchestra followed this with the "Myriad Dancer."

President A. A. Murphree in most complimentary words introduced the Orator of the evening, the Hon. John Temple Graves, of America. President Murphree's introduction gave all in the audience a share in this gifted gentleman, some as Floridians, some as Georgians and all as Americans. The Hon. John Temple Graves is matchless! He holds his audience in his hands as a master holds his violin, the strings are the emotions of his hearers and they vibrate at his touch to laughter or to tears or rise with him to the grand heights from which all good things seem attainable and all evil things flee as shadows of night before the sun. His subject, the Reign of the Demagogue, should be delivered in the hearing of every American, old and young. The pictures he draws of the demagogue looming up like the genie in the Arabian Nights from a puff of smoke until he obscures the Sun of Freedom is a warning not to be ignored. The scathing denunciation of those who would sell their birthright bought by the blood of patriots for a mess of pottage, the tyranny and oppression resulting from unlawful combinations based on the votes of the Judases, the expulsion from the glorious field of politics, of the eagles of statesmanship by the vultures of corruption foreshadowed a hasty dissolution of our inspired constitution. But he also showed the silver lining to the lowering cloud and brightly was it reflected in the intelligent faces of the class which he addressed. Education, liberal education for all, which would make the spacious falsehoods display their hollowness and wipe the veil of prejudice from enlightened eyes.

Mr. Graves' eulogies of all our great and glorious ones, Washington, Lee, Grant, Davis, Lincoln, McKinley, Alex Stephens, and a galaxy of others was as a brilliant light to draw others on in their footsteps.

The presentation of diplomas to the class by Mr. Rawls, a trustee of the college, followed. These degrees were conferred. The degree of Bachelor of Arts on Fritz William Buchholz, Ida Grace Cramer, Samuel Franklin Gammon and Robt. Bryan McCord; the degree of Bachelor of Letters on Nettie Clare Bowen, David M. Cook, Bersha Archer McGinniss and Arthur Joseph Shutan; the degree of Bachelor of Science on Agnes Kennedy Anthrop, Burton Ellis Belcher, Wm. Parish Byrd, Ruby Diamond and Nellie Patillo.

The Hilson medal for oratory and the Winthrop medal for the Platonic Debate was presented by Governor Broward to Miss Shirley Long and Mr. Dozier Devane.

Prof. Calhoun then arose to express the love and admiration of the faculty for their president and his estimable wife. They begged that he would accept from them a small token of remembrance. This was a handsome present of silver and was accepted by Pres. Murphree with pride and pleasure. He disclaimed the credit for the notable advancement of the college and shared most generously with the faculty and students the justly earned commendations of the public.

Thus with the most brilliant commencement in its history, the Florida State College closed its doors.

### Georgia, Florida and Alabama Railway, Carraholle, Tallahassee & Georgia Railroad.

On account of the Lewis and Clark Exposition, Portland, Oregon, tickets will be on sale any date until September 30, 1904, limited to 90 days from date of sale, for \$77.65 round trip, but not beyond November 30, 1905.

For other information, address R. C. Snipes, Traveling Passenger Agent, Tallahassee, Fla.

The evidence taken by the Noble House asylum investigating committee has not been handed out to the public yet. The report has been extensively used, and conveys the idea that the whole asylum business has been whitewashed. Wait until the printed journals come forth, with its findings, before coming to the final conclusion that everything is lovely. We have been informed by those who should know that it does not, by any means, make angels of those who had a hand in State asylum matters.

## COMPLETE TITLE OF BUCKMAN BILL

Showing in Vivid Outline All of its Numerous Provisions.

The now celebrated "Buckman college bill," which passed the Senate Friday evening, is a document of formidable length, and entirely too long for publication in our limited space. We therefore give below a copy of its title, which will convey a very fair idea of its purposes and provisions. The vote in detail on the final passage of the bill through the Senate was as follows:

Yeas—Senators Adams, Alford, Baskin, Blount, Canova, Crews, Davis, Gillen, Harris, Humphries, Jackson, Newlan, Sams, Stockton, Wadsworth, West—16.

Nays—Mr. President, Senators Bailey, Crill, Hudson, Zim—5.

The bill, as it passed both houses, was in the shape of a substitute offered by the House committee accepted by the author of the bill, Mr. Buckman of Duval. The title of this substitute follows:

A bill to be entitled an act to abolish the Florida Agricultural College, now officially designated as the University of Florida, located at Lake City; the West Florida Seminary, now known as the Florida State College, located at DeFuniak Springs; the East Florida Seminary, located at Gainesville; the South Florida College, located at Bartow; the Florida Agricultural Institute, located in Osceola county, and to vacate and revoke their charters, powers, franchises and privileges, and to abolish their boards of trustees, managers and officers; to declare their assets and property the property of the State of Florida, and to vest the title to same in the State Board of Education in trust for the purposes provided in this act; to require the conveyance of title and the delivery of all property and assets of said abolished institutions to the said State Board of Education by the trustees, managers or other persons having the title, possession, custody or control of the assets of said institutions; requiring an accounting and reports therefrom, including a statement of all their liabilities and the auditing of the same; providing for the payment of the indebtedness of said institutions; revoking and abolishing all continuing appropriations made or granted thereto; for the repeal of sections 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298 and 299 of the Revised Statutes of Florida, relating to the creation and establishment of the Florida Agricultural College, its organization, powers, rights and privileges and matters pertaining thereto; for the repeal of Sections 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 325, 326 and 327 of the Revised Statutes of Florida relating to the organization, creation and establishment of the Seminaries East and West of the Suwannee River, their location, powers, rights, privileges and matters pertaining thereto; the repeal of Section 268 of the Revised Statutes of Florida relating to the establishment of a White Normal School at DeFuniak Springs, and providing for the election of a faculty therefor; the abolishing of the Normal and Industrial department created in the St. Petersburg Normal and Industrial School located at St. Petersburg, and the repealing of Chapter 4998 of the Laws of Florida, entitled "an act to assist in the maintaining an Industrial and Normal department in the St. Petersburg Normal and Industrial School; to create scholarships therein and to make appropriations therefor," approved May 15, 1901; providing that no further appropriations or State aid shall be made to said institution, the striking from the name of said institution of the words "Normal and Industrial," and the relinquishing to the county of Hillsborough of all interest possessed by the State in and to the said school or its property by reason of the appropriations made and aid granted thereto; for the amendment of Section 269 of the Revised Statutes of the State of Florida relating to the establishment of a normal school for colored teachers, and providing for the election of a faculty therefor; the establishment, creation and location of the University of the State to be known as the University of the State of Florida, and one female Seminary to be known as the Florida Female College, and for the maintenance and support of same; providing for the change of location of the Institute for the Blind, Deaf and Dumb now located at St. Augustine, and its enlargement, maintenance and support; providing for the maintenance support and greater efficiency of the Colored Normal School located at Tallahassee, and for the change of location of the same as may be desired; for the creation of a Board of Control to manage and control all of said institutions created and provided to be supported and maintained by this act, and to provide for their appointment, terms of office, manner of their succession, organization, compensation, modes and manner of payment and matters connected therewith; granting unto said

(Continued on seventh page.)